

Priority

A new paragraph claiming the domestic priority is added to page 1 of the application, as suggested by the Examiner. The suggestion is acknowledged with appreciation.

Abstract

Inasmuch as the Abstract was continued from a parent application, reconsideration is requested of this requirement. The offending text probably should read "the interchangeable portions" rather than "interchangeable the portions". If this is the objection, the Applicant through her attorney will make the change to the entire text immediately with a supplemental submission.

Claims 45, 46 and 51 were rejected as being indefinite. Claim 45 has been amended in a way that is submitted to overcome the objection. That is, an insulating cooler device is said in the preamble to have an insulating cooler and at least a pair of interchangeable structural members for said cooler. Such language is generic to interchangeable portions of a top, such as are described in elected Figs. 2 to 4. Thus, claim 45 reads on an attachment 44 for a top on a cooler, wherein rather than the entire top being interchangeable, as apparently understood by the Examiner. Thus, the steps of releasably affixing the structural member to a planar portion of the cooler distinguishes over the findings of the Examiner at the top of page 4 of the Action.

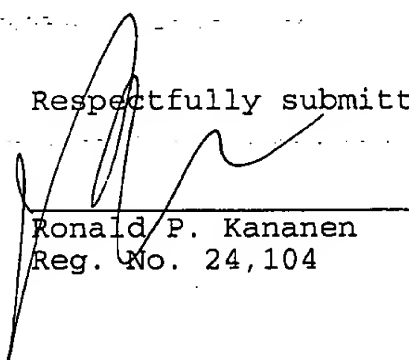
Independent claim 52 recites interchanging attachments for a cooler device, wherein the attachments are said to have predetermined indicia thereon. As in steps (b) to (e), those attachments are exchanged on a "substantially planar portion" as defined in claim 51.

To the extent that claims 52, 53, 46, 54 and 62 are again rejected on "inherency", a Final Action is solicited to prepare this application for appeal. It is the position of the Applicant that none of the art teaches or suggests the methods there claimed, or show that the methods claimed are in the possession of the public through the cited references.

Reconsideration of the supporting findings is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Ronald P. Kananen
Reg. No. 24,104

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER, PLLC
The Lion Building
1233 20th Street, N.W., Suite 501
Washington, D.C. 20036
Tel: (202) 955-3750
Fax: (202) 955-3751
Customer No. 23353

APPENDIX**(MARKED-UP VERSION OF AMENDED CLAIMS)**

45. (amended) A method of releasably attaching predetermined indicia to an insulating cooler device having an insulating cooler and at least a pair of interchangeable structural members for said cooler, comprising the steps of:

providing a structural member sized and dimensioned in a manner that is structurally compatible with a body of an insulating cooler and having the predetermined indicia thereon;

applying a releasable affixation device to said structural member; and

releasably affixing said structural member to a planar portion of said insulating cooler [device] using said releasable affixation device, whereupon said affixing step includes a step of non-destructively exchanging one structural member having a first predetermined indicia [is non-destructively exchanged] for another structural member having a second predetermined indicia on said body.

46. A method of attaching predetermined indicia to an insulating cooler device according to claim 45, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying adhesive to the said structural member.

47. (amended) A method of attaching predetermined indicia to an insulating cooler device according to claim 45, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying a [VELCRO brand] hook and loop type of fastener.

48. A method of attaching predetermined indicia to an insulating cooler device according to claim 45, wherein said

applying step comprises the step of applying a plurality of guide members.

49. A method of attaching predetermined indicia to an insulating cooler device according to claim 45, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying an elastomeric band, so dimensioned as to extend around a periphery of said structural member.

50. A method of attaching predetermined indicia to an insulating cooler device according to claim 45, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying magnets or ferromagnetic metal structurally arranged so as to mate with magnets or ferromagnetic metal attached to said insulating cooler device.

51. A method of attaching predetermined indicia to an insulating cooler device according to claim 45, wherein said predetermined indicia is a sports logo.

52. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device, said attachments having predetermined indicia thereon, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) providing an insulating cooler device having a substantially planar portion;
- b) providing a plurality of interchangeable structural members, each said interchangeable structural member having the predetermined indicia thereon;
- c) releasably affixing one of said plurality of interchangeable attachments to said substantially planar portion using said releasable affixation device for a first predetermined time period;
- d) removing said one interchangeable attachment from said substantially planar portion; and

e) releasably affixing another of said plurality of interchangeable attachments to said substantially planar portion for a second predetermined time period.

53. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 52, further comprising the step of:

applying a releasable affixation device to each of said plurality of interchangeable attachments.

54. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 52, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying adhesive to the said structural member.

55. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 53, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying a VELCRO brand fastener.

56. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 53, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying a plurality of guide members.

57. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 53, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying an elastomeric band so dimensioned as to extend around a periphery of said interchangeable attachment members.

58. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 53, wherein said applying step comprises the step of applying magnets or ferromagnetic metal structurally arranged so as to mate with magnets or ferromagnetic metal attached to said insulating cooler device.

59. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 53, wherein said interchangeable attachment is a removable cover, and wherein said applying step comprises the step of integrally attaching a structural member to said removable cover that mates with a body portion of said insulating cooler device.

60. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 59, wherein said integrally attaching step comprises attaching a plurality of mortises or tenons, so dimensioned as to mate with corresponding tenons or mortises, respectively, on said insulating cooler device.

61. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 59, wherein said integrally attaching step comprises attaching an elastomeric band around a periphery of said removable cover.

62. A method of interchanging attachments for an insulating cooler device according to claim 52, wherein said predetermined indicia is a sports logo.